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form. The two leading characteristics of the system are found to be endogamy and hierarchy. Ketkar protests vigorously against the ethnological theory of caste in general, although he admits that most of the castes which do not intermarry are "simply tribes converted into castes." The whole "Aryan" theory is an invention of European scholars. The word Arya, in the period of caste formation, was a class term rather than a race term, and signified merely that the bearers of the name were of honorable rank or belonged to the ruling order, whatever their extraction. The generally accepted distinction between Aryans and Dravidians is therefore invalid, according to Ketkar, not only for this reason but because the Dravidians are themselves of Caucasian stock. Furthermore, "the conquering tribe will be of a higher caste, whether it is an "Aryan" or "Dravidian" tribe; the conquered tribe may be of Aryan race, still it would be of low caste because it is a conquered tribe."

The interesting chapter on the philosophy of caste explains a phase of the system that has puzzled the western mind. Much of the rigidity of the Indian social organization is doubtless due to the fact that, while individuals may lose caste, no one may rise in rank. But the doctrine of the transmigration of souls lessens this hardship. A blameless life during the present existence may give the hope of being born into higher castes in later reincarnations, as, likewise, unworthy conduct may degrade the offender to lower castes.

ULYSSES G. WEATHERLY.

University of Indiana.

The Negro American Family. The Atlanta University Publications, No. 13. Edited by W. E. BURGHARDT DU BOIS. (Atlanta, Georgia: The Atlanta University Press, 1908. Pp. 156. 75 c.)

The series, of which this volume is the latest issue, has now covered a dozen of the more important phases of negro social life. This study follows the same lines as its predecessors and handles the subject from the historical, descriptive, and statistical points of view, adding to original research the results of studies already

published. In fact it contains rather less than usual of original matter, but it is none the less a storehouse of useful information. There are four parts, devoted to marriage, the home, the economics of the family, and the family group. Each of the first three parts opens with a description of conditions in Africa and in America during the period of slavery. Part II has some interesting illustrations exhibiting the grades of negro habitations from the one-room cabin to the mansion. Part III is mostly statistical, family budgets being the chief item considered. One section of Part IV returns to the same subject. There is manifested throughout an optimistic tone as to the economic and moral progress of the race. All students of the negro problem will join in the hope that lack of financial support may not, as hinted in the preface, cause the publication of this useful series of monographs to be discontinued.

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Soziologie. Untersuchungen über die Formen der Vergesellschaftung. By GEORG SIMMEL. (Leipzig: Duncker und Humblot, 1908. Pp. 782. 12m.)

The sociology of Professor Simmel, of the University of Berlin, has often been pointed to by critics of sociology as indicating the utter disagreement among scientific sociologists at the present time. It is said that Professor Simmel's sociology is entirely different from anything offered under that name in other civilized countries. However, the book before us quite refutes this assertion, for there are no topics treated in the work which would not be treated more or less in any systematic presentation of sociologic theory. The only questions that can be raised are whether Professor Simmel has dealt, as he seems to imply, with the entire range of sociological problems, and whether he has dealt with those which he has treated, in the most scientifically fruitful manner.

To be sure, Professor Simmel's approach to the problems of sociology seems at first glance to put him in a class by himself, for he explicitly limits sociology to the consideration of the forms